

B-3526 - B-3535

c. 1837-1880's

223 - 201 E. Cross St. (South side)/ 1115 Durst Alley (East side)  
Baltimore, Md.

Private access

The south side of the 200 block of E. Cross St. is improved with a variety of house types ranging in date from the late 1830's to the 1870's and 1880's. 221-223 E. Cross St. is a pair of two story plus attic brick houses built in the early 1850's. To the west, at 219 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house built in the 1860's; at 217 E. Cross St. there is a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice representing a post-Civil War remodeling of an 1855 house; at 215 E. Cross St. there is a late Victorian two story, three bay wide brick house with shed roof and Italianate bracketed cornice representing either an 1880's remodeling or replacement of the original 1850's house on the site; and at 213 E. Cross St. there is a two story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house similar to that at 219 E. Cross St. and also built in the 1860's. Across Durst Alley to the west there is a three story, two bay wide gable-roofed brick house at 211 E. Cross St.; a pair of two story, two bay wide gable-roofed houses at 207-209 E. Cross St. built in the 1850's; a three story, two bay wide brick house with shed roof and bracketed cornice, now covered with aluminum siding, at 205 E. Cross St., which probably represents an enlargement of an 1840's or 1850's house; and finally a pair of two story, two bay wide late Federal style houses (though currently without dormer windows) built in the late 1830's by the Dempster family at 201-203 E. Cross St. Only one house of an original row of ten two story, two bay wide brick houses with shed roofs built along the east side of Durst Alley in the 1850's survives at 1115 Durst Alley. These houses were probably built by William Webb, the builder of the row of two story plus attic houses on the front portions of the lots at 1110-1124 Battery Ave.

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-3535  
MAGI 0435355504

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1115 Durst Alley

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_NO

#### PRESENT USE

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_MUSEUM

\_\_\_PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT      ☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ GOOD            ☐ RUINS  
☒ FAIR            ☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This two story, two bay brick house with shed roof and brick and metal cornice is the sole survivor of a group of eight such houses built in the 1850's by the same builder who built the row of eight gable roofed houses immediately to the rear of these alley houses on Battery Ave.

The house is two stories in height, not quite 11' wide, and occupies a lot 33 1/2' deep. The house is two rooms deep and there is no rear addition. The house is constructed in running bond. The shed roof has a Victorian brick and metal cornice. There are no extant roof chimneys.

All of the door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels with scroll-sawed tympanums and wood sills. All of the windows are filled with the original 2/2 double hung sash. A modern flush door is set beneath a two-light transom. The house sits on a low basement, the entrance being reached by two stone steps. A rectangular basement opening is located beneath the first floor window.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

B-3535

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1851-58

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Webb

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

See under 1118-1124 Battery Ave.

The house was built by William Webb, the builder of the two story plus attic houses on Battery Ave. directly behind this row on Durst Ave. (only one of which houses survives).<sup>1</sup> The houses are typical of the extremely modest and small-scale houses generally built along alley streets in this section of Federal Hill to serve as inexpensive housing for the influx of newly arrived immigrant families seeking work in harbor-related activities. Houses such as these were held as rental property. The houses are quite small, with two rooms on each floor. They were built with shed roofs originally, and not gable roofs, although their 1850's construction date is early for the use of shed roofs. The only other example of the early use of shed roof construction in a row of two story houses in the area is to be seen at 11109-1121 S. Hanover St.

This house is important as being the only surviving example of the row of 8 similar alley houses that once extended down this side of Durst Alley.

<sup>1</sup> Baltimore City Land Records, Liber AWB 468, Folio 110; GES 190, Folio 72

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 10'9" x 33'6"

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

M.E. Hayward / Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Maryland Historical Trust / Struener Bros. & Eccles5/79

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

1745 Circle Rd.

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

RuxtonMaryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

E. CROSS

B-3535  
ST.

ST.

201	203	204	207	209	211
17	17	15-6	10-6	10-6	12-4
33	32	31	30	29	28
35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46
47	48	49	50	51	52/53

WILLIAM

DURST

219	218	217	214	221	223
14	14	12-6	12-6	16	16
28	27	26	25	24	23
21	20	19	18	17	16
15	14	13	12	11	10
9	8	7	6	5	4
3	2	1	0	0	0

BATTERY

AVE.

E. WEST

ST.

NOTICE

DEPART  
RUIPEA



B-3535  
1115 Durst Alley  
Block 0952 Lot 056  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.







B-3535

1115 Durst Alley

M.E.H.

5/79

West elevation